

Question 1:

(3 + 4 + 3)

(a) Solve the inequality and express your answer in terms of intervals

$$\frac{2x + 3}{x^2 + 5x + 6} \geq 0.$$

Solution: (a) Let

$$\frac{2x + 3}{x^2 + 5x + 6} \geq 0$$

$$\frac{2x + 3}{x^2 + 3x + 2x + 6} \geq 0$$

$$\frac{2x + 3}{x(x + 3) + 2(x + 3)} \geq 0$$

$$\frac{2x + 3}{(x + 3)(x + 2)} \geq 0$$

Thus the solution of the given inequality is

$$x \in (-3, -2) \cup \left[-\frac{3}{2}, \infty\right)$$

(b) Find $(f \circ g)(1)$ and $(g \circ f)(1)$, where

$$f(x) = x + \frac{1}{x} \quad \text{and} \quad g(x) = \frac{x + 1}{x + 2}.$$

Solution: (b) Since

$$\begin{aligned} (f \circ g)(x) &= f(g(x)) \\ &= f\left(\frac{x + 1}{x + 2}\right) \\ &= \frac{x + 1}{x + 2} + \frac{x + 2}{x + 1} \\ &= \frac{(x + 1)^2 + (x + 2)^2}{(x + 1)(x + 2)} \end{aligned}$$

and at $x = 1$

$$(f \circ g)(1) = \frac{(1 + 1)^2 + (1 + 2)^2}{(1 + 1)(1 + 2)} = \frac{36}{6} = 6$$

Solution: (b) Since

$$\begin{aligned}(g \circ f)(x) &= g(f(x)) \\ &= g\left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right) \\ &= \frac{x + \frac{1}{x} + 1}{x + \frac{1}{x} + 2} \\ &= \frac{(x^2 + x + 1)/x}{(x^2 + 2x + 1)/x} \\ &= \frac{(x^2 + x + 1)}{(x + 1)^2}\end{aligned}$$

and at $x = 1$

$$g \circ f(1) = \frac{(1 + 1 + 1)}{(1 + 1)^2} = \frac{3}{4}$$

(c) Determine the value of k such that the given function is continuous on $(-\infty, \infty)$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 5x + 2, & \text{if } x \leq 1 \\ kx^2, & \text{if } x > 1. \end{cases}$$

Solution: (c) Let

$$\begin{aligned}(i) \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} kx^2 = k(1)^2 = k \\ (ii) \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} (5x + 2) = 5(1) + 2 = 7 \\ (iii) \quad f(1) &= (5x + 2)|_{x=1} = 7\end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) = f(1) = 7 = k$$

Question 2:

(4 + 3 + 3)

(a) Find the following limits, if exist

$$(i) \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2}{1 - \cos x}, \quad (ii) \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + x + 4} - 2}{x^2 + x}.$$

Solution: (a)(i) Let

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{x^2}{1 - \cos x} \right) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{x^2}{1 - \cos x} \right) \left(\frac{1 + \cos x}{1 + \cos x} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2(1 + \cos x)}{1 - \cos^2 x} \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2(1 + \cos x)}{\sin^2 x} \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{x^2}{\sin x} \right)^2 (1 + \cos x) \\
&= (1)^2(1 + 1) = 2
\end{aligned}$$

Solution: (a)(ii) Let

$$\begin{aligned}
\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + x + 4} - 2}{x^2 + x} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(\sqrt{x^2 + x + 4} - 2)(\sqrt{x^2 + x + 4} + 2)}{(x^2 + x)(\sqrt{x^2 + x + 4} + 2)} \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(x^2 + x + 4 - 4)}{(x^2 + x)(\sqrt{x^2 + x + 4} + 2)} \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(x^2 + x)}{(x^2 + x)(\sqrt{x^2 + x + 4} + 2)} \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{(\sqrt{x^2 + x + 4} + 2)} \\
&= \frac{1}{(\sqrt{4} + 2)} = \frac{1}{2 + 2} = \frac{1}{4}.
\end{aligned}$$

(b) Find the horizontal asymptote and the vertical asymptote for the graph of the function

$$f(x) = \frac{x^2 + 2}{x^2 - 1}.$$

Solution: (a) First, we will find the horizontal asymptote as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{x^2 + 2}{x^2 - 1} \right) \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2(1 + \frac{2}{x^2})}{x^2(1 - \frac{1}{x^2})} \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(1 + \frac{2}{x^2})}{(1 - \frac{1}{x^2})} \\
&= \frac{(1 + 0)}{(1 - 0)} = 1
\end{aligned}$$

Also

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \left(\frac{x^2 + 2}{x^2 - 1} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{x^2(1 + \frac{2}{x^2})}{x^2(1 - \frac{1}{x^2})} \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{(1 + \frac{2}{x^2})}{(1 - \frac{1}{x^2})} \\
&= \frac{(1 + 0)}{(1 - 0)} = 1
\end{aligned}$$

Thus $y = 1$ is the only horizontal asymptote.

Now we will find the vertical asymptotes: As $x^2 - 1 = 0$, gives $x = \pm 1$.

$$\begin{aligned}
\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \left(\frac{x^2 + 2}{x^2 - 1} \right) \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} \frac{(x^2 + 2)}{(x + 1)(x - 1)} = +\infty
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \left(\frac{x^2 + 2}{x^2 - 1} \right) \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{(x^2 + 2)}{(x + 1)(x - 1)} = -\infty
\end{aligned}$$

Hence $x = 1$ is vertical asymptote. Also,

$$\begin{aligned}
\lim_{x \rightarrow -1^+} f(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow -1^+} \left(\frac{x^2 + 2}{x^2 - 1} \right) \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow -1^+} \frac{(x^2 + 2)}{(x + 1)(x - 1)} = -\infty
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
\lim_{x \rightarrow -1^-} f(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow -1^-} \left(\frac{x^2 + 2}{x^2 - 1} \right) \\
&= \lim_{x \rightarrow -1^-} \frac{(x^2 + 2)}{(x + 1)(x - 1)} = +\infty
\end{aligned}$$

Thus $x = -1$ is also vertical asymptote.

(c) Use the definition of the derivative to find $f'(x)$ of the function $f(x) = \frac{1}{x+1}$; and find the equation of the tangent line to the graph of this function at the point $P(1, \frac{1}{2})$.

Solution: (c) By definition

$$\begin{aligned}f'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \\&= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{x+h+1} - \frac{1}{x+1}}{h} \\&= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(x+1) - (x+h+1)}{h(x+h+1)(x+1)} \\&= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-h}{h(x+h+1)(x+1)} \\&= \frac{-1}{(x+1)^2}\end{aligned}$$

Substituting for $x = 1 = x_1$ in $f'(x)$, we obtain

$$m = f'(1) = \frac{-1}{(1+1)^2} = -\frac{1}{4}$$

Since an equation of the tangent line at a point $P(x_1, y_1)$ is

$$y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$$

putting the values, we obtain

$$y - \frac{1}{2} = -\frac{1}{4}(x - 1)$$

or

$$y = -\frac{1}{4}x + \frac{3}{4}.$$
